

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (original): A non-oxidative hair colouring composition, comprising ceramide or functionally similar related material, in the absence of phytantriol.
2. (original): A composition according to claim 1, comprising ceramide or functionally similar related material in an amount in the range 0.01 to 5% by weight.
3. (original): A composition according to claim 2, comprising ceramide or functionally similar related material in an amount in the range 0.05 to 1% by weight.
4. (original): A method of improving the colouring effects of non-oxidative hair colouring compositions, comprising application to the hair of ceramide or functionally similar related material, in the absence of phytantriol.
5. (currently amended): ~~Use of~~ The method which comprises including ceramide or functionally similar related material in a hair care composition for the purpose of improving the colouring effects of a non-oxidative hair dye.
6. (currently amended): The ~~invention~~ composition or method according to any one of ~~the preceding claims~~ 1-5, wherein the ceramide or functionally similar related material comprises one or more ceramides or pseudoceramides.
7. (currently amended): The ~~invention~~ composition or method according to claim 6, wherein the ceramide comprises ceramide 2.
8. (currently amended): The ~~invention~~ composition or method according to claim 6, wherein the pseudoceramide comprises bishydroxyethyl biscetyl malonamide.
9. (new): A method of improving the colouring effects of a non-oxidative hair dye which comprises applying to hair, ceramide or pseudoceramide before, during or after application of the hair dye to said hair.